[Mr. Kayalam Paramesvaran Pillai.]

consisting of the following gentlemen to submit its report within three months;

Mr. A. Thanu Pillai.
" Matthew Murikkan.
" G. P. Nilakanta Pillai.
" N. R. Krishnan.
" R. Raman Pillai.
" T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar.
" S. C. H. Robinson, and myself.

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I second it.

PRESIDENT: I take it that the House accepts the motion. I appoint Mr. Robinson as the President of the Committee.

THE LAND CONSERVANCY REGULATION AMENDMENT BILL.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, I rise to introduce a Bill to amend the Land Conservancy Regulation. It has been published in the Gazette and circulated amongst the members and I now move that the Bill be read in Council.

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I second it.

The question was put and carried.

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): I shall now explain briefly the principle involved in this Bill. The Bill relates to an amendment of Section 14 of the Land Conservancy Regulation which relates to the appeal and revision powers in respect of orders passed under the Regulation. It will be noticed from that Section that in respect of the orders passed by the Division Peishkar under the Regulation the appellate authority is the Dewan. I propose to modify that by substituting the Land Revenue Commissioner as the appellate authority. The House is aware that it is some time since the Land Revenue Department has been organised and co-ordinated, with the Land Revenue Commissioner as its head. It is therefore only proper that he should be the appellate authority against the orders of Peishkars, as he is already in other respects. In regard to an order passed by the Peishkar under the Revenue Summons Regulation, for instance, the appellate authority is the Land Revenue Commissioner and not the Dewan. So also is the case with regard to the orders passed under the Puduval Rules. If a Peishkar fixes *taravila* under the Puduval Rules the appellate authority against that order will be the Land Revenue Commissioner and not the Dewan. So in all these revenue matters it is the Commissioner that is the appellate authority and not the Dewan. To co-ordinate all these things and to have an orderly arrangement, it is proposed to make the Revenue Commissioner the appellate authority against the orders of the

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Peishkars. This will also remove some practical difficulties which have been found to arise. I will cite here but one example. If under the Puduval Rules the Dewan Peishkar passes an order in connection with the registry of a *puduval* by fixing a certain amount as *taravila* and if the person who has applied for the *puduval* feels that it is too high, he may file an appeal to the Commissioner for reduction of the *taravila*. If, while the appeal is pending, he does not pay the *taravila* he may be turned out of the land by the Peishkar under the Land Conservancy Regulation. If such a thing is done the appeal against that has to be preferred to the Dewan. That is to say, while the question of *tharavila* is pending with the Land Revenue Commissioner, the eviction matter will go to the Dewan and the Dewan not being seized of the matter before the Commissioner may even refuse to give an interim order to stay proceedings. Such difficulties and trouble can be averted if all these powers are vested in the same officer, the Commissioner, by making him the appellate authority in land conservancy matters too. But at the same time the orders passed under the Land Conservancy Regulation are very important ones and it will be the desire of the House as it is the desire of the Government that some powers should be left to Government to revise the orders in fit cases. Such power of revision is proposed to be given although the Commissioner is made the appellate authority. I hope this measure will commend itself to the House.

The question was put and the principle of the Bill was affirmed by the House.

MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Secretary to the Legislative Council*): Sir, I beg to read the title of the Bill. "The Land Conservancy Regulation Amendment Bill".

MR. KAYALAM PARAMESVARAN PILLAI (*Additional Head Sirkar Vakil*): Sir, I beg to move that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of the following members, the report to be submitted within three months :—

Mr. A. S. Damodaran Asan.
,, D. Francis.
,, R. Kesava Pillai.
,, Tamarapallil Kochutomman.
,, P. S. Mahomed.
,, V. S. Krishna Pillai.
,, T. P. Ramasubba Aiyar.
,, S. C. H. Robinson; and myself.

MR. K. N. RAMASUBBA AIYAR (*Financial Secretary to Government*): I second it.

PRESIDENT: I take it that the House accepts the motion. I appoint Mr. Robinson as the Chairman of the Committee.

The council adjourned at 1 P. M. to meet again to-morrow at 11-30 A. M.

T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR,
Secretary to the Legislative Council.

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